

REMARKS

Restriction Requirement and Sequence Election

The examiner has required a restriction between the claims of group I (claims 1-24 and 30-37), group II (claims 25-28), group III (claim 29), group IV (claim 38), group V (claims 39-40) and group VI (claims 41-50).

Applicants choose to prosecute the claims of group I (claims 1-24 and 30-37). Applicants further elect the nucleotide sequence identified as SEQ ID NO: 1 from the Sequence Listing.

Favorable action on the claims is requested.

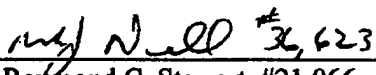
If the examiner has any questions concerning this response which can be resolved by telephone, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000.

Extension of Time

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), the applicant respectfully petitions for a five (5) month extension of time for filing a response in connection with the present application and the requirement fee of \$980.00 should be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1055.

If the Primary Deposit Account No. 50-1055 is deficient and non-payment will result in a loss of rights, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
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2750-1096P